

April  
2011



Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

#### Garden Maintenance Party

**Saturday, April 23**

9am—12pm  
Clayton Hutcheson Building



*Come help us tidy up our native display garden. Bring your hat, gloves, water, and hand tools.*

#### Sneak Preview of Coming Attractions

**Apr 16** — *Field Trip with Dade Chapter*

**Apr 16** — *Naturescaping*

**May 1** — *Central County Native Yard Tour*

**May 17** — *Propagation Workshop & Plant Exchange*



### *April Chapter Meeting*

**Tuesday, April 19**

**7:30 – 9:00 pm** (doors open at 7)

Palm Beach County Extension—University of Florida/IFAS  
Mounts Building Auditorium  
531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415

### *2011 Native Plant Auction*

This Year's Themes:

- *Read and Seed*
- *Native Garden Staples*
- *Pretty as a Daisy*
- *Pretty in Pink*
- *The Bare Necessities*
- *Patio Plants*
- *Native Orchids*
- *Pine Flatwoods in a Box*
- *Grass...that won't get you busted*
- *Monarchs, Malachites and Woolly Bears, Oh My!*

For a complete list of plants, visit <http://palmbeach.fnpschapters.org/>

And...Don't forget about the great **Silent Auctions!** Featuring more rare plants, books, crafts & garden related items!

Our MC is **Rufino Osorio**, author of 'A Gardener's guide to Florida Native Plants'

With plants graciously donated by  
**Meadow Beauty and Native Choice Nurseries**

*Free Admission • Refreshments • Native Plant Raffle  
Public Welcome • No Reservations Needed*

*The Florida Native Plant Society promotes the preservation of our native flora through education and conservation. To attract wildlife, promote water conservation and prevent the further introduction of non-native pest plants, the society encourages the cultivation of nursery-propagated Florida native plants and promotes their use as ornamentals in public and private landscapes.*

## Land Management Review: JW Corbett WMA

by Lynn Sweetay

One of the permanent committees for the Florida Native Plant Society is the Land Management Partnerships committee. This committee has many functions including:

- Participate in public comments on management plans as an FNPS representative
- Serve on land management review teams
- Assist with Management Plan writing and review
- Assist with state lands volunteer programs
- Serve on state lands Liaison Committees
- Assist with native plant workshops on plant identification and community descriptions
- Adopt a park or natural area as a chapter or individuals

All of our public lands have management plans and periodically they must be reviewed by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to see if the plan is being carried out. FNPS now participates on these land management review committees as volunteers representing the public. These are wonderful opportunities to meet land managers from a variety of sites and assist with state land management goals as well as to see some really neat areas that the public may not see often. So I volunteered! I was asked to represent FNPS in a review of Corbett Wildlife Management Area in March. The following is my review.

The JW Corbett Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is a 60,000 acre conservation tract located in northwestern Palm Beach County. The area has diverse plant communities including Pine Flatwoods, Cypress, Sawgrass and Oak/Cabbage Palm Hammocks as well as some ruderal sites. Our task on the Land Management Review team was to see if part of the area, a lease in the south west corner of the park, was being managed for the purpose for which it was acquired and if the actual management practices were in compliance with the written management plan. Whew, not the whole 60,000 acres! Before arriving at the WMA each of the team members reviewed the actual land management plan which turned out to be very informative and not as much of a task as I first thought it might be.

We arrived at Corbett's brand new offices at 1 pm on day one and had an introductory slide presentation by

Park Manager **Linda King**. Packets with maps and information were passed out to all. Then we boarded buggies (my first time) and spent 4 hours driving through flatwoods, along canal levees, and through dense palmetto and wet flatwoods. We saw the burning regime results, hydrology, exotic plant presence, access by the public and opened and closed gates! It was a gorgeous mild day, and along with evaluating I enjoyed seeing a turkey, an eagle (there are 2 nests on the property),



many small birds, a pair of sandhill cranes, lots of water birds foraging in the wet areas, red-bellied woodpeckers and a couple of small gators. Along the roadside I saw wild petunia, fleabane, Coreopsis and swamp sneezeweed in bloom. The staff was extremely knowledgeable and helpful making sure all our questions were answered and we were comfortable.

The next morning we gathered again this time to go over our review checklist and discuss all items. There were seven of us on the review team including representatives of FWC, Division of Forestry, Palm Beach County, Florida State Parks and DEP. Hearing expert input from all of these dedicated people was really educational. We found that the management team at JW Corbett was doing an outstanding job overall. Almost no

*Continued on pg. 7*

## Annual Conference Coming in May

### Florida Native Plant Society 31st Annual Conference

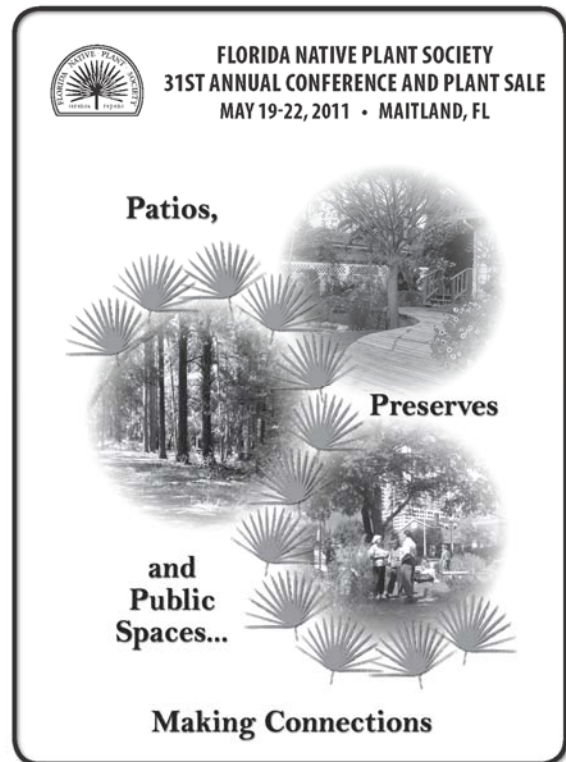
#### *Patios, Preserves and Public Spaces: Making Connections*

**Sheraton Hotel North – Maitland, Florida  
May 19th – 22nd, 2011**

Attend the Florida Native Plant Society conference that connects Florida's natural values and conservation with the landscapes that we create in our personal and public environments.

For complete information and to REGISTER, please visit  
[www.fnps.org/pages/conference](http://www.fnps.org/pages/conference)

Approved CEU credits for ASLA, FNGLA, SAF and ISA Pending credits for APA



### Conference Highlights

- Over 50 Speakers and Workshops
- 20 Field Trips with Expert Guides
- Social Events each Evening with Musical Entertainment
- Plant Sale / Exhibitors / Vendors
- Research Presentations & Poster Exhibits
- Learn about Earth Jurisprudence

## Field Trip to Jonathan Dickinson State Park

**Saturday, April 16, 2011: Jonathan Dickinson State Park, 9:30 AM**

**Description:** If you can't make it to Naturescaping at MacArthur State Park on April 16, you might want to join the FNPS Dade Chapter for a field trip to Jonathan Dickinson State Park that same day. They have invited us to join them for a day of exploration. They plan to meet at the park entrance at 9:30 am and then head for the Kitching Creek Trail. Late-comers can catch up with us there. Their excellent botanists Chuck McCartney (who visits there often enough) and Marty Roessler will lead the trip. Down the trail, we plan to head off on some side explorations to see what else can be found. Easy to moderate walking, closed shoes recommended. Plan to bring your lunch and enjoy a picnic.

**Leader:** Patty Phares 305-255-6404, [pphares@mindspring.com](mailto:pphares@mindspring.com)

**Location & Directions:** 16450 S.E. Federal Highway Hobe Sound, Florida Located 12 miles south of Stuart on U.S. 1.

**Bring:** Sun protection and water. Leave some room in your vehicle if you'd like to purchase any special plants.

**Notes:** Restroom facilities are on site.

## March Meeting Notes

**Roger Hammer** announced the upcoming publication of his newest book, "*Florida Icons*," which will be available in November. He gave a delightful presentation on Central Florida Wildflowers, with brilliant photos of several prairie wildflowers, many of which are endemic to the Lake Wales Ridge area and found no where else in the world. He noted that many of these wildflowers are found only in fire-adapted habitats, including species of *Dicerandra*, *Lobelia*, and *Garberia*.

Volunteer **Eric Ludwig** kept the Mounts building open for the meeting. **Nancy Sloane** and **Myrna Sossner** provided refreshments.

Plants were donated by: **Lynn Sweetay, Ryan Leavengood, Cynthia Plockelman, Gene and Sue Sanchez, Livia Pepper, Lindy Cerar, Jeff Nurge, Kat Rahla, Ann Cavaleri**. Plants donated: bird pepper, blanket flower, blue stem chalkgrass, firebush, Florida privet, Florida violet, frostweed, pineland acacia., red stopper, salvia, scorpion tail, seaside goldenrod, spicewood, spiderwort, *Stenandrium*, tickseed, wild coffee, wild lime.

*Submitted by Cathy Beals*

## Butterfly Garden Getting Wings at the VA

You may have seen the requests for native butterfly plants for the VA Hospital in previous issues of the Da-hoon. Well **Harry Winkler** and others have been up to a lot of good over there. As a master gardener and a US veteran, Harry was interested in contributing to the injured vets at the VA. When **Dr. Maura Miller**, Director of the VA Medical Center's Therapeutic Gardening Program, presented "Using Horticultural Therapy for Clinical Rehabilitation in Residential Care Facilities" to a group of local master gardeners, Harry volunteered.

The program seeks to introduce therapeutic garden design into VA facilities across the nation. Therapeutic gardens can play an important role in the physical and emotional recovery of veterans. There are three certified master gardeners and two future master gardeners involved at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center's garden. There are about 150 wheelchair-bound vets in the communal living center who have the opportunity to enjoy the group's gardening efforts. In addition to a small veggie garden, the group is establishing a butterfly garden. When it gets going, the garden should attract a number of butterflies that will be enjoyed by the vets.

According to **Diane Bradley**, the team's butterfly expert, the garden now has 21 plant species. But there is still room for more natives! If you have a few of the



*Garden volunteers stand before the newly installed butterfly garden at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center. From Left to right: Dr. Maura Miller, Diane Bradley, Mike Kalland (a Master gardener student), Anne Tippen (VA volunteer), Renee Winkler, and Harry Winkler. Supervisory support was provided by two veterans (front row)*

following species, Harry and the group would gladly feed some butterflies with them. Plants needed—beach sunflower, black-eyed susan, blue porterweed, coontie, coral honeysuckle, and partridge pea. If you have any of these plants to donate, please bring them to the meeting or call Harry Winkler at 561-622-8597.

## Gardening with the Natives

by Jeff Nurge

### Mexican Alvaradoa (*Alvaradoa amorphoides*)

Mexican alvaradoa is a wonderful plant now finding its way into cultivation. Slender and upright with an open crown, this small tree has delicate opposite thin leaves on single branches. It normally reaches 10 to 20 feet tall depending on growing conditions. What are most unusual are its flowers. Hanging down on long stalks are numerous white flowers, which are tightly bunched on what just appears to be spiky thorns. For the wildlife, it's always best to have some plants in your garden that flower when others are not. The Mexican alvaradoa blooms from fall to spring. As an added feature it is the host plant for the small, fast moving Dina Yellow butterfly.



*Mexican alvaradoa is listed as endangered in the State of Florida.*

*Photo by Jeff Nurge*

The growth rate is moderate. Drought tolerance is high once established, and the soil can be nutrient poor but the plant will thrive with a little organic matter. Mexican alvaradoa requires full sun to dap-

pled shade. Its natural range extends no further than South Dade County. However, it does quite well in Palm Beach County and is a fine addition to a small garden as it grows taller than it is wide. Due to its delicate appearance, in my garden I have mixed it in with other natives to give the garden a tropical flair. When planting native plants in my yard that are exclusive in the wild to the Keys and Dade County I like to believe that without man's interference these plants would have made the trek up the coast on their own!

This plant is available at native nurseries. Visit the Association of Florida Native Nurseries at [www.afnn.org](http://www.afnn.org), but don't stop there. The site provides only a snapshot of the offerings at local nurseries, so call around.

**Jeff Nurge**

[www.FloridaNativeGardening.com](http://www.FloridaNativeGardening.com)

## FNPS Online Shop Open for Business!

You can now purchase FNPS merchandise and support FNPS and FNPS Chapters. If you love Florida's native plants, you're going to love what's already offered at the new FNPS online shop, and it's only going to get better. Go to [www.floridanativeplantsociety.mybigcommerce.com/](http://www.floridanativeplantsociety.mybigcommerce.com/) and take a leisurely stroll through our little shop and discover all the goodies that FNPS has gathered for your enjoyment (and purchase, too). The site has everything from hats to tees to wonderful works of original art. And, of course, you don't have to be a Florida native plant lover to love what you see, just a friend to nature and lover of beauty.



If you're an artist, and would like to sell your creations on our site, email Greg at [The.FNPS.Shoppe@gmail.com](mailto:The.FNPS.Shoppe@gmail.com) and he'll be happy to email you back with all of the details.





## Contributions Wanted

Your suggestions for content are welcomed.

We are always interested in original native plant articles, essays, field reports, photos, event announcements, or other content suggestions.

If you would like to contribute to our chapter newsletter, please email LeRoy and Shari Rodgers at

[dahoon@mindspring.com](mailto:dahoon@mindspring.com)

## Membership at a Glance

Business	8
Contributing	9
Donor	2
Family	27
Individual	96
Library	1
Life	2
Not for profit	3
Student	2
Supporting	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, April 16**  
Park

MacArthur Beach State

### Naturescaping

10 am - 4 pm Free park admission, native plant vendors, music, food, exhibits, photography contest, silent auction, kids craft area, live animal show and green presentations in their beautiful new nature center. (Our Chapter has an opportunity to establish a butterfly garden next to this nature center with educational FNPS signage.) Come by our booth and help us spread the native word. And feel free to bring along any extra native plants for us to sell. FNPS Contact: [Lindycerar@yahoo.com](mailto:Lindycerar@yahoo.com) or 561-312-0660.

**Saturday, April 16**

Hobe Sound

### Field Trip to Jonathan Dickinson State Park

9:30 am – 2:00 pm If you can't make it to Naturescaping, you might want to join the FNPS Dade Chapter for a field trip to Jonathan Dickinson State Park that same day. They have invited us to join them for a day of exploration. See Page 3 for details.

**Saturday, April 23**

Mounts Building, UF/IFAS Extension

### Get Your Hands Dirty!

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Come and learn from experts as you help us maintain our Native Plant Demonstration Garden. It's a great opportunity to ask questions, identify plants, and take home cuttings for your garden. Drop by anytime between 9:00 am and noon to learn, socialize, and enjoy brunch in the open air. Don't forget to bring your garden tools if you have them! For information call 561-247-FNPS (3677).

**Sunday, May 1**

Central Palm Beach County

### Central County Native Yard Tour

9:30 am – 2:00 pm Our popular annual native yard tour is right around the corner. Join members on a tour of numerous yards with native plantings. This year's yard tour will feature 11 never before seen yards landscaped by homeowners, professionals and a combination of the two. Some are in process and some have been around for several years (see insert for details).

## Membership Update

Our chapter has 154 members as of April 1st, 2011. We have one new member in the month of March. A warm welcome to David Winters!

Eleven memberships renewed or rejoined in March. Renewing or rejoining individual members are **Kay Gates, Mike Gladstone, Eric Ludwig, Kathryn Rahla, and Harry Winkler**. Our renewing family members are **Ken & Stephanie Brown, Lynn & Frank Huber, Matthew King & Kristina Serbesoff-King, Terry Perrone, and LeRoy & Shari Rodgers**. Our renewing Not-for-Profit member is the **Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach (Daniele Garson)**.

*Thank you all for your continued support of FNPS!*

## Land Management Review *(continued from pg. 2)*

exotics were visible which was unbelievable to me. We found that the team at JW Corbett had pioneered a regime of keeping track of exotics on site with GPS marking which is now in use throughout the state. Overall this property is being managed well and according to the written management plan.

I took a short walk along the Florida Trail after the meeting and found *Viola lanceolata* (long leaf violet), *Ruellia* (wild petunia), *Polygalla lutea* (bog bachelor button), *Coreopsis* (tickseed), *Sabatia grandiflora*, *Sisyrinchium atlanticum* (blue-eyed grass), *Piloblephis* (pennyroyal), *Clematis crispa* (pine hyacinth), *Helenium pinnatifidum* (swamp sneezeweed) *Erigeron quercifolius* (Fleabane) and *Rhexia lutea* in bloom at my feet.

If you want to visit (and I highly recommend it) the WMA has two entrances. The north entrance is off the Bee-line highway on the south side of the road, just 1/4 mile west of the intersection with SR 706 or Indiantown Road. The south entrance is off Seminole Pratt Whitney road, three miles north of Northlake Blvd. Use the south entrance for access to the Everglades Youth Camp, Hungryland Boardwalk and access to the Florida Trail. For more information on activities, use the Friends of Corbett website [www.friendsofcorbett.com](http://www.friendsofcorbett.com).

Lynn Sweetay  
Chapter Representative

### *Member Pride*

Jupiter High School teacher and long-time FNPS member **Phil Weinrich** received the 2011 Pine Jog Environmental Education Green Gala Award for 'Environmental Educator of the Year.'

Phil has been the Ecology and Environmental Science teacher at Jupiter High School's Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy since 1973. His passion for environmental education has made such a difference to so many budding prospective FNPS members. We just had to boast about one of our members!

### *A Native Thumbs Up*

**Ryan Leavengood** presented a fifteen minute talk at the Boynton Beach Community High School on Saturday, April 2 for an audience of about 60 students and teachers. The topics covered included the benefits of native plants to wildlife and the environment as well as the interest they can provide to people. He also addressed the problems with the typical American landscape and the excessive use of exotic plants and too much turf lawn. Lastly he covered proper planting techniques. Way to go Ryan!

### *Wanted Section*

Silent auction 4/19/2011

Items needed!!

Baskets, pots, nature art, garden tools,  
jelly, honey, gloves, hats

Be creative and philanthropic!

Contact: Lynn Sweetay

[lynnsweetay@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnsweetay@hotmail.com) for details

**Seeking a Landscape Chair** - main responsibilities include maintaining the native plant demonstration garden at Mounts, coordinating volunteers for the maintenance, provide native plant technical assistance to local projects and present to local groups on behalf of the Palm Beach County Chapter as needed.

Please contact Brenda Mills (561-247-3677 or [bmills@sfwmd.gov](mailto:bmills@sfwmd.gov)) if you are interested in this exciting volunteer opportunity.

*Promoting the preservation, conservation, and restoration  
of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida*

Florida Native Plant Society  
Palm Beach County Chapter  
534 29th Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

Kaki Clark-Holt  
SFWMD  
3301 Gun Club Rd  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

**Membership Renewal  
(complimentary)**



## Florida Native Plant Society

Palm Beach County  
Chapter

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(561) 247-FNPS  
(3677)



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[palmbeach.fnpschapters.org](http://palmbeach.fnpschapters.org)

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## Officers & Chairpersons

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PALM BEACH COUNTY CHAPTER  
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
MEETS

**3rd Tuesday of the month  
7:30 P.M.**

(doors open at 7:00)  
Mounts Building Auditorium  
University of Florida/IFAS Extension  
531 North Military Trail  
(1/4 mi north of Southern Blvd.)  
West Palm Beach, Florida

**Meetings are free and open  
to the public.**